

Message Text

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TAGS: AORG, ABUD, AMGT, UN, UNEP

SUBJECT: UNEP PLANNING DOCUMENTS

REF: STATE 16552; USUN 190

1. UNEP FUND DIRECTOR BERTHOUD CONFIRMED WITH REGRET THAT UNEP HAS HAD TO DEFAULT ON ITS SUBMISSION TO UN MEDIUM TERM PLAN (1976-1979) AND PROVIDED FOLLOWING SCENARIO IN EXPLANATION:

A) UNEP LAST JUNE SUBMITTED QTE SHOPPING LIST UNQTE OF AREAS OF ACTIVITY IN BELIEF THAT THIS WAS TYPE OF SUBMISSION WANTED. WAS NOT TOLD UNTIL MID-DECEMBER THAT QTE SHOPPING LIST UNQTE UNUSEABLE, AND THAT WHAT WAS REALLY WANTED WAS A CONCEPTUAL STATEMENT COVERING UNEP'S ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS, TOGETHER WITH QUANTITATIVE INPUTS. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION WAS JANUARY 10.

B) MATTER DISCUSSED IN EARLY JANUARY WITH STRONG, WHO DECIDED THAT, IN VIEW ONGOING PREPARATIONS FOR GC-III AND SHORT TIME REMAINING UNTIL DEADLINE, UNEP WOULD BE UNABLE TO PREPARE SUBMISSION THAT WOULD DO JUSTICE TO UN'S CONCEPTUAL APPROACH (WHICH UNEP WELCOMES). STRONG SUBSEQUENTLY SENT CABLE TO UNDER SEC GEN DAVIDSON INFORMING HIM OF DECISION AND SAYING

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THAT UNEP WOULD THEREFORE HAVE TO DEFER ITS SUBMISSION

UNTIL PLAN'S FIRST REVISION, PRESUMABLY IN 1976.

2. WHEN EMBOFF MENTIONED DEPARTMENT'S VIEW THAT DOCUMENTS PREPARED BY UNEP SECRETARIAT FOR DECEMBER INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS MIGHT FORM BASIS FOR ADEQUATE SUBMISSION, BERTHOUD SAID THAT BUDGET DIVISION OF UN'S DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT HAD HAD SAME IDEA AND MAY ITSELF TRY TO PULL TOGETHER AN ENVIRONMENTAL CHAPTER FROM THESE DOCUMENTS.
MARSHALL

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